

AMHERST PUBLIC ART COMMISSION

Fiscal Year 2009

Members: Sylvia Cuomo, Harriet Goodwin, Rachel Hankinson, Nora Maroulis, Mary McCarthy, John Townsend, Terry Rooney (Chair). Resigned: Candace Bradbury-Carlin, Carl Erikson, Larry Siddall

The Amherst Public Art Commission (APAC) continues its successful Visiting Artists Program with a three month rotating schedule of local artists on 3 floors in Amherst Town Hall. APAC hosts an artists' reception during the Amherst ArtsWalk which is free and open to the public. These exhibitions have resulted in many wonderful reviews in the local media and sales for the artists. Town Hall shows included: Anita Licis-Ribak's New Mexico photographs, Steve Plummer's watercolors, Marcia Wise's oil local landscapes and Keith Hollingsworth's 3D constructions.

Artist, Briana Taylor, finished painting the entrance of the Boltwood Garage with architectural and pastoral scenes of Amherst. This installation was funded with a second grant (\$1,000) from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

The Amherst Public Art Commission started production on Shedding Light, the first large scale public arts piece, lighting the tobacco shed on the Swartz Family Farm, which will bring attention to our local farmers and heritage for Amherst's 250th anniversary. The artist/architect Erika Zekos worked with the Public Art Commission to find a site, write grants, and researched lighting design and a "green option" to reflect the conservation efforts of our community. Public Art Commission received grants from several sources a first for this committee. We procured grants for almost \$7,000 from U Mass, WMECO, Art Angels, private donations as well as the Amherst Cultural Council. (Shedding Light was lit during the month of Dec '09)

Terry Rooney, Chair